

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A sun visor assembly for a vehicle to be used in conjunction with an overhead airbag is disclosed. The sun visor assembly includes a visor panel, a pivot rod, and a mount for securing the sun visor assembly to the vehicle. The sun visor assembly also  
5 has a deflecting element for allowing the visor panel to be deflected out of the path of an inflating overhead airbag. The deflecting element could be a detachable catch mechanism that holds the visor panel in an operational position until the airbag deploys. The deflecting element could also be a spring loaded pivot or crease disposed within the body of the visor panel. The deflecting element could further be a tear seam or flexible  
10 fabric for channeling the trajectory of the overhead airbag.